

# The Temple Artisan

SEPTEMBER, 1916

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# THE TEMPLE

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**P**RIMARILY, The Temple is a cosmic organic centre, the constituent parts of which are the units of collective humanity.

Coincident with the original impulse, the first emanation from the Central Spiritual Sun—the Universal Heart—came into manifestation, the Father-Mother-Son, the triangular corner stone of The Temple, upon which is rising, age by age, a geometrically perfect edifice. The cap stones to the pillars of the porch, and the outer walls are now being laid, preliminary to the work of the roof-builders—the humanity of the sixth great root-race.

The place of each stone is determined by the law of selection, and the same law determines the different Degrees and Orders which lead to and from the great Stone of Sacrifice which rests upon the pavement of the Central Square.

The development of outer conditions, planes and personalities must keep pace with and correspond to the development of the interior man, or evolutionary force would be diverted from its proper channels.

When the Craftsman or Apprentice to any Degree has finished his term of service, and has mastered all the details of the work, he is "recognized" by the Master Builder, and raised to a higher Degree, although he may never be conscious of the presence of that Master, until his apprenticeship is completed, and he in turn becomes a Master of a lower Degree.

The organization of The Temple, the members of which belong by evolutionary right to a certain Degree of Cosmic Life, which Degree is subdivided into seven Orders, is the continuation and expansion of the work of the Masters revived in this country a quarter of a century ago by certain chelas or disciples.

To the efforts of the Masters is due the impulse which has caused the great advance in scientific, philosophical and social endeavor; for they are the guardians of Ancient Wisdom and Knowledge, in which lies the root of all progress; and the work of The Temple is to cultivate and embody the highest principles of all such endeavor in one stupendous living organic whole.

It is a common belief that the fires on the altars of the Ancient Temples have been permitted to die out: but "those who know" say this is not true; that they are but hidden from the view of the masses, awaiting the time when the veil of ignorance and corruption hanging before the hearts of the humanity of this transitory period, shall be rent asunder, and the light of the ages become manifest to all. The time is comparatively close at hand when the doors of "The Temple of the Mysteries" shall once more swing outward. The Site of that once wonderful structure has been rediscovered, and when the Lord, the Saviour, the Elder Brother of the human race once more reappears to claim his own, He will find a place prepared for him by those who, having heard this call, "Come over and help us," have faithfully responded, and have taken up their share of the burden of responsibility. Are you of that number?

Address THE TEMPLE, Halcyon, California.

# The Temple Artisan

XVII

SEPTEMBER

Behold, I give



unto thee a key

LOVE DIVINE





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unto thee a key.

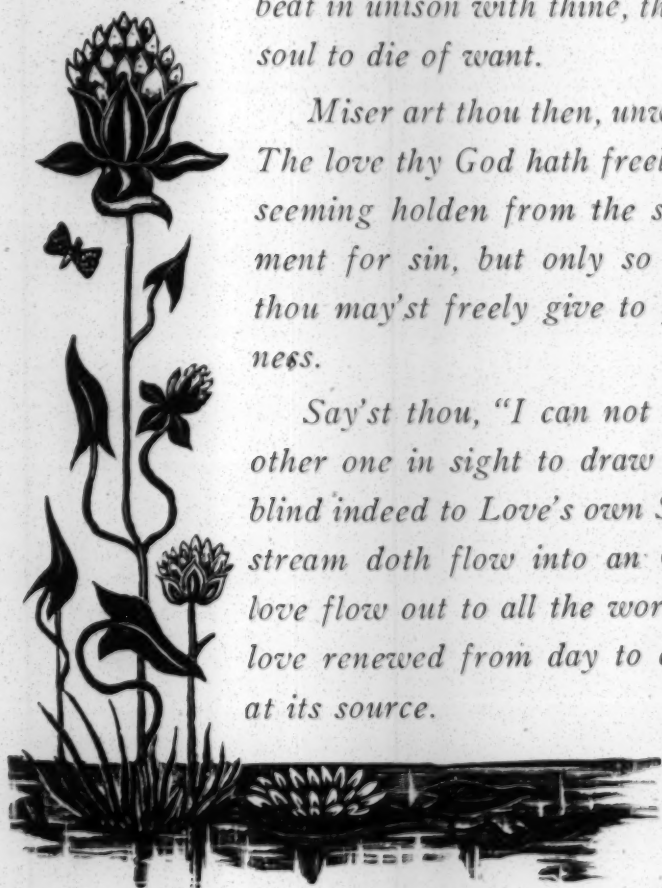
## LOVE DIVINE.

*Thinkest thou that Love Divine asks no return for all the wealth of Love bestowed upon thee?*

*The starving Souls who throng this universe of worlds can only live and grow by love, and if thou crushest back the love, God-given, to its source because thou has not found another heart to beat in unison with thine, thou leavest some starving soul to die of want.*

*Miser art thou then, unworthy of the gift of God. The love thy God hath freely given thee, He hath in seeming holden from the souls who suffer punishment for sin, but only so withheld that love that thou may'st freely give to pay thine own indebtedness.*

*Say'st thou, "I can not love unless there be another one in sight to draw that love, then art thou blind indeed to Love's own Self, for as the mountain stream doth flow into an Ocean vast so may thy love flow out to all the world, yet is that stream of love renewed from day to day, unless thou dam it at its source.*



## THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF TEMPLE MEMBERS.

On the evening of August 5th members, resident and visiting, assembled in the parlors of the Halcyon Sanatorium in informal session. Here the program of the meetings for the week was announced, and the evening was devoted to general sociableness interspersed with musical numbers of the usual excellence. Dr. G. B. Little blossomed forth as a playwright and presented a clever sketch appreciated by all. The sketch was enacted by Dr. and Mrs. Little, Lola and Agnes Liberty, J. O. Varian and Leon Awerdick. The play afforded opportunity for the introduction of musical numbers.

The Old Guard of vocalists, Dr. Little, Misses Agnes and Lola Liberty and Mr. Otto Westfelt did their duty as excellently as ever. In addition Mr. Cheatham had assembled an orchestra of four pieces that rendered highly pleasing selections during the evening. The orchestral group was composed of Henry Fram and Virgil Hodges, first and second violin, Sigurd Varian, flute, and Edgar Cheatham, piano.

Refreshments were served by the Reception Committee before the company adjourned to assemble the next day for the first meeting of the Convention.

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### FIRST MEETING OF THE CONVENTION.

After a piano selection by Edgar Cheatham and the singing of the Convocation Hymn, the meeting was officially opened by Dr. W. H. Dower invoking the blessing of the Masters of Light and Wisdom on all meetings and deliberations. The Words of Force were then recited, followed by the singing of "The Great Unifier." Mrs. F. A. La Due then read the Master's Message to the Convention.

### THE MASTER'S MESSAGE.

*To My Children:*

Many are the heavy karmic debts the Great Law is equalizing in the present decade of this century; many more debts of similar nature are still to be paid ere the final day of adjustment arrives. The Eagle's wings are spread wide and far in its flights over the nations who are now under its surveillance. Its power is in the ascendant, and whether there be temporary victory or defeat for one or more of those nations in the engagements of the immediate past or future, there will be an important victory in the final adjustment, for a great gulf will have been crossed in the evolutionary pathway.

of life, and the tips of the Eagle's wings will rest on either side of that gulf, forming a bridge over which millions of human beings will pass to a new life; a gulf wherein countless hindrances to spiritual development will be forever buried.

As for you who are now gathered here, and others of your status who are widely distributed over this country, your present security and absence from the nameless horrors now being perpetrated in many other lands are due to the karmic effect of bravely and conscientiously surrendering life and all that life held for you, in defense of a great ideal, during the Napoleonic wars or in the American Revolution; and because of the manner of your deaths, and your consequent swift return to earth life, you are now only permitted to view those horrors from afar, instead of being in the midst of them as you otherwise might have been. Your part of a great racial karmic debt you paid with those lives, but many parts of the same debt had not been collected by those others of your race and kin who are now engaged in the European war.

When the present great struggle is over one side of the karmic slate will have been well cleansed for numberless peoples over whom the wings of the Eagle hover, both in France, Germany, Russia, the United States and the British Isles. Knowing, as we of the Great White Brotherhood know, how closely identified the peoples of those nations are with each other, despite the present differences of race, nation and creed; and that through many thousand year cycles they have all incarnated many times in one or more of these nations, races and sub-races, and also knowing that they are in fact units of one great spiritual race, is it surprising that we beg you to refuse to antagonize each other now, because you are temporarily of one race or the other, when by so doing you will, figuratively speaking, drive in a wedge to close the way for a more rapid precipitation of the unifying forces which are making way for a self-conscious realization of your unity—your spiritual oneness with the Ego of the Sixth Race, your consciousness of this relationship must become more and more apparent as the zenith of the ascending arc of the present great cycle is approached.

Being made aware of these great truths,—and they are truths,—is there any excuse for a disciple of that Great White Lodge who neglects an opportunity for breaking down the bars which now hold the people of these nations apart, or who puts up new bars between them by unwise or unkind action?

While the karma will be heavy enough for those who do these things in ignorance of the above mentioned facts, it will be infinitely heavier for you who have been enlightened if you still persist in so doing.

We cannot deliberately and intelligently thwart or try to thwart Divine Will as exemplified in the action of karmic law which is bringing to manifestation the vehicle for transmission of the power of one of the four great Hierarchal rulers of humanity—the incarnation of the Spiritual Ego previously referred to, by so much as a hair's breadth without bringing a terrible retribution on ourselves, and we commit that sin if we deliberately and consciously refuse to break down the aforementioned bars, or if we emplace new ones. If any of your number are capable of so interfering with the action of the laws of development in the case of a race, a nation or a world because your superior development to that of the masses of humanity would enable you so to do, how much more are you capable of maintaining or building bars be-



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tween members of your own organization—your own Temple family—and so barring off myself or one of the six others who with myself constitute the group soul of the division of humanity to which you belong. And you can do this individually and collectively, by neglect, cruelty, injustice and selfishness.

Your personal responsibility is as great as is your opportunity for attaining to knowledge and power, and it is in an effort to bring this home to you that I have entered into and enlarged upon this subject at this time to the exclusion of other subjects of more personal interest. For a constructive cycle has opened in which you can build slowly and securely something far more satisfactory and enduring than you have heretofore built; and it is to that building, the building of the Temple, that you are irrevocably pledged. There is no race, no sex, no creed or division in the Great Temple of which we hope this outer Temple will one day be a simulacrum.

With a clasp of my heart, the cords of which enwrap you, I greet you.

Your father,

HILARION.

---

### BY THE GUARDIAN IN CHIEF.

*My Comrades Dear:*

In tender love and deep appreciation I thank the great Father that I am enabled to meet and greet you once again.

For eighteen years some among the comrades now gathered here, with other dear ones now scattered over the face of the earth, have stood together, most of the time with our backs up against the wall, to use a graphic metaphor, and fought the forces of death and disintegration, fought them more with the weapons of love, faith and endurance than with material weapons. One by one many of those who were with us in the early years of our work have passed on into other fields of labor, and others have stepped in to fill their vacated places on the physical plane, but their love for the Temple and the comrades who had grown so dear to them was such a vital thing in their lives it could not die, and never were they nearer to us while they were here in body than they have since been on the first Sunday of August in each year as we have come together in Convention.

As we who have borne the brunt of the work grow older, more weary and careworn with the passing years, our inner eyes naturally go out in a search for those who will take our places and carry on the work that will some day drop from our nerveless fingers, and a feeling of responsibility for those others comes over us with tremendous force and it is well that we should ask ourselves, "have we done our part in fitting those others for the burdens that they will take up?" Have we shown our appreciation of the kind offices of others? Have we been brave enough to hurt those we love when some dire necessity arose, or in cowardice let them drift on to some rock which we plainly saw? Have we spoken the word to the stranger within or without our gates which might have brought him into the Temple fold, or allowed indifference, indolence to restrain us? These and countless other intimate personal questions arise in our minds, as we think perhaps it may be just the one or more to whom we have or have not done these things, who would be the karmic agents to stand in the breach when some future great battle was on and who would fail because we have been too indolent—too cowardly or



too selfish to do our part when on our courage and devotion the work might be utterly dependent.

The Master has very frequently reminded us of our personal responsibility for the success or failure of the Temple work, and yet, I fear, only too few of us fully appreciate the importance of his words. It is said that on some one person may depend the fate of a nation, a city, an organization, and yet as a rule the great majority of people both in and outside of the Temple ranks stand ready to shift all responsibility to the shoulders of the next in line if by so doing they can save themselves trouble, anxiety or loss in any form. We do not always realize the cowardice, the faithlessness of such an act, nor do we call to mind the fact that we may be losing the greatest opportunity that has ever come to us by so doing, for such opportunities generally come in some unexpected way; by means of some "little thing." Truly is it said, "there are no little things."

While we are thinking of the wealth of instruction we have been given, and the countless evidences we have had of the protection and help of the Masters through all these past eighteen years, do we as earnestly ask ourselves "what have we given in return?" Do we sufficiently realize that there is a Divine law of reciprocity which demands that for all we receive we must render an equivalent, otherwise that law will set up an account against us which we will have to pay some day with accumulated interest?

These are all serious questions, even personal questions, although not addressed to a personality, and the law of karma will compel us to answer them. They are serious, for we know not what effect their answers may have on the rest of the human race.

We are reminded over and over again of the critical era we are now in. Our responsibility for every act, word or thought is intensified in such periods as is the present, and it is our plain duty to teach this truth wherever we have opportunity.

I would far rather at this time tell you of all the beautiful things, the mystic or sacred things that impinge upon my consciousness at times, and which might interpret similar experiences of your own, but I feel that the two words I must leave with you, as forcibly as I am able to do at this time, are *Self responsibility*.

In all tenderness, your comrade and sister,

FRANCIA A. LA DUE,  
The Guardian-in-Chief.

---

### BY THE SCRIBE.

From the point of view of the Temple Scribe the most important development during the past year has been that of great harmony here, and the lack of much trouble or attack from the outside.

Looking back over the years it is not difficult to see that the Temple influence has developed the forces of love, faith and endurance in us all to a great degree, and that trials which occurred years ago and seemed to require an almost superhuman exercise of one or another of these qualities, appear almost commonplace and every-day affairs at the present time. This I take to be an evidence of soul development resulting from the trials and tribula-

tions we have gone through, necessary alike for our own evolution and, more important by far, for the building of the foundation of the Temple at this place.

During the past year there has been great activity and much good work done by the very efficient Propaganda Department, many new members having been enrolled and much literature having been distributed and letters written, etc. The particulars as to facts and figures will be given by Mrs. Briggs in her report as General Secretary.

The trend of things in the T. H. A. has been to get in line with the Temple work, and it is to be hoped that during this Convention it will be possible to take some action which will result in a definite move in that direction.

To the Scribe, the present time presents a more hopeful front than any for many years past, and it would seem that the time has come when very definite and tangible results will show in all lines of our work.

ERNEST HARRISON,

Temple Scribe.

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### BY THE TREASURER.

"The man who wins in the battle of life is the one who has courage and persistency. And as both of these are found only where energy is, it must follow that energy is the indispensable quality of great success."

This aphorism given to the world by one of the world's greatest conquerors in one of the greatest epochs of the world's history is worthy of consideration by any movement for whatsoever purpose it may be designed.

Energy is but a synonym for Mastery and Mastery to be complete must be attained on every plane.

Mastery of the material plane is just as necessary, just as important, just as sacred as that of the mental and spiritual planes. In fact, realization of the spiritual and mental planes must be limited to some degree until the physical has been brought under control.

Energy has been the keynote of the Temple the past year and a corresponding measure of success is to be found in a material way. The reading of the figures will divulge conditions in a concrete form.

The report in figures was read here showing receipts from dues, Helping Hand and Propaganda Department amounting to \$1270. All of which has been expended for ARTISAN and other printing, paper, postage, office and other general Temple expenses.

The Temple must attain control of physical, material conditions sufficient for transmitting its message to the world, the whole world, before its purpose can be fulfilled, before the chasm between the physical and spiritual can be bridged.

This must be done on this plane of life by energy—the quality of absolute truth, the smallest particle of which always liberates the wonderful element of sacrifice.

To gaze upon the illumined Temple of our souls' effort, we must be so energized as to be able to dare torture, contumely and hate, though it hold us indefinitely in the fire, knowing that the circumstances of our own particular battle will cause a brighter ray of precious truth to flicker in the world.

Energy is the Universe in Manifestation, the pranic building force of material substance—the Truth, in Person, in the Middle of the Cross of the Magi, holding a Magic Wand of Power in her hands.

To gain mastery over the world—the soul, the Empress must pass the gate of Energy, must stand unclothed, save for the flowing scarf of spiritual protection, in the center of the cone of leaves, the aspiration of the personal differentiated lives, the left leg across the right in the form of a cross.

In her left hand is the magic wand—in the right the end of the scarf.

At the bottom of the cone are the bull and the lion,—at the top the eagle and the winged man, the four apocalyptic animals.

The Path of Energy is the Path of Conciliation, whence reflect the blessings of God upon the world.

Truth, honor, hope, advancement, elevation and success lie therein. Let it not be forgotten that the excellent promises of the Lodge to humanity are to be found in unyielding Energy.

JANE W. DOWER, Treasurer.

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## BY THE OFFICIAL HEAD.

### *Temple Comrades:*

This Seventeenth Annual Meeting of Temple members will undoubtedly mark an important epoch in Temple history. The Temple influences are spreading and our work is attracting more and more attention from the world. I have reasons for thinking that we are at the turning point, at the turn of the long lane we have been traveling for seventeen years and that the power and purpose of the Temple movement will impinge increasingly strong on the consciousness of humanity in enormous measure during, say, the coming seven years of time.

As long as sixteen years ago when there was little or no hint of the great world war, the Master said to some of us in effect that the wars then raging on the astral planes were beyond the power of description in the devastation resulting, and that these wars would precipitate on the physical plane in time. The Masters had done all in their power to change the current into peaceful channels, but while they delayed the precipitation they could not interfere with Karmic law sufficiently to prevent these wars. About the same time the prophecy that was referred to last year in my address and commented upon was given showing in a symbolic prophetic form how the forces were to work out on this plane. That this prophecy may be freshened in your mind I will repeat it here:

**"The Bear will growl at the Lion. The Eagle will alight on the Bear's head and pluck out its left eye. The Ox and the Lion will close in a struggle to the death. The Eagle, the Bear, the Ox and the Lion will form a Square in the midst of which will arise the Architect who will rule the earth."**

About a year ago another prophecy was received by the Temple relating to the one above which reads as follows:

**The growl of the Lion has turned to the purr of a cat. The purr of the Cat has awakened a sleeping Snake which will strike its fangs into the heel of the Lion when the Lion turns to gather the spoils. The Ox**



has regained the seminals of a Bull. The Bull is pawing the earth to open the way for the fiery hosts. The Eagle has closed the wound in the Bear's left eye and loaned the Bear its wings for swift flight.

The Lion, the Bear, the Ox, the Eagle, the Bull and the Snake will form the Hexagon—the sixth—from which the Square—the Fourth—will arise to build the Corner-stone for the feet of the Architect to rest upon.

Still another addition throwing more light on the two above quoted have been received. This last appeared in the August ARTISAN, which Dr. Dower then read (see August ARTISAN).

Here we have the Masterhand showing the handwriting on the wall if we have the intuition to read and understand. It will be of great interest to watch the working out of these prophecies on this outer plane.

As students of life under the great Lodge of Masters we are especially interested in such a world struggle as is now on for such a struggle as history has shown will and must radically change the currents of human life and either lift the race or lower it according to the way the forces act. I do not mean by this that the raising or lowering will depend upon whether one side or the other is victorious. It will depend upon how the great struggle modifies the consciousness of the human race, and this is irrespective of which side may win, in large measure. We have reasons for thinking that no side can win in this great struggle and if then as a result, the great nations of the world are receptive to the Forces of light and Wisdom flowing from the Great Ones who are guiding the evolution of the planet, these nations will be moved to form a great world Federation of Peace with an international Court to settle all disputes and which Court will be on the same principles as any Court of this or any other land, the decrees of which must naturally be enforced by some sensible agreement binding all. This International Tribunal of Justice is the next great step that humanity must take; for humanity cannot evolve separately. It must evolve all together in a solid Unity as all life is one, all nations are one, simply manifesting on this plane as different rays. Coincident with this great unification of the nations of the earth, economic conditions must be arranged on a basis of justice and equality for all men and women, for economic injustice animated by the forces of Mammon are really the cause of this great war now on. The Beast must be hunted to his lair or transmuted into aspects of a spiritual nature before the world can be truly free.

#### THE WORK FOR THE PAST YEAR.

One of the most important Temple things accomplished during the past year has been the definite starting of an active Propaganda Department under the supervision of Mrs. Briggs, assisted by Mr. Wolff. The work of this department which was inaugurated only January last has been very good from all angles. In the organization of this work Mrs. Briggs has been given the office of General Secretary and her report as such will give interesting details of the good work done.

Another fact of interest has been the translation of the book, "From the Mountain Top," into the German language by the Theosopher Kultur Verlag, with headquarters at Leipsic, Germany. A printed prospectus has been issued and orders are solicited for the German edition which will be out by Christ-

mas. The Theosophical Kultur Verlag has been given the rights for the German edition.

The report of the Treasurer will also show good responses from members during the past year which has permitted the Temple to keep clear of increasing any indebtedness.

It seems at this time as if it would be possible to publish much during the coming year that will tend to advance the work and call attention to the great truth that the Temple bears for Humanity.

No greater good could be accomplished than the printing and issuing of the countless messages of truth and teachings on the mysteries of life and being which is at the disposal of the Temple for transmitting to the world.

#### THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

This work has gone steadily on and very good results are accruing in consequence. The teachings sent out by this Department are in reality Teachings of The Temple simplified and scores of letters from adult members and readers testify how much they are appreciated. There is no work of The Temple that is of more importance than this work for the Children, though it is doubtful if members take this sufficiently to heart; probably though the fact of the struggle of The Temple as a whole to establish itself solidly. As this establishment on solid foundations takes place, the need and importance of the Children work will impinge on our consciousness, but while this is under way, the Children's work should be in process of sturdy building also. There is an occult reason for this as well as an outer. The Child force in the Temple must be fed and nourished, and if this is not done The Temple cannot become a co-ordinated balanced Entity represented by the Trinity of Father, Mother, Son. The Son line in the Trinity of expression is the Children's Work in the Temple Movement, and if this is not invoked and nourished, the Temple closes a Door through which the highest spiritual forces would come.

During the past year the Children's Department has made splendid progress and its influence has extended widely among non-members as well as members, as reports of this Department will show at the Children's Department Meeting.

#### THE SOCIOLOGICAL PHASE.

This has never been lost sight of and is a most important part of our work as a whole. Our teachings and Spiritual philosophy must find concrete expression or we are up in the air so to speak. We must ever strive to find ways and means of working out the exact correspondence on the physical plane of the great fundamental spiritual truths which have been given to us in order that the Forces of the Great Lodge may find expression on all planes. The Great Work, in other words, is to externalize in outer conditions the Order of Light and Harmony that is in Heaven, to bring Heaven down to earth or earth up to Heaven.

The outer work known as the Temple Home Association is designed to work along these lines. It is a plan recommended by the Master and is the aspect of an outer economic work designed eventually to materialize in outer terms the fundamentals referred to. That no great outer success has come as yet only proves that they have not as yet sufficiently built the ideal in our

own hearts strongly enough. When this is built and the Temple work has expanded sufficiently in outer ways, there is no doubt but that the seed, the little plant we are nourishing under the name of the Temple Home Association, will be better nourished and will grow rapidly into something worth while, standing as a concrete example or expression of our grand spiritual philosophy of life and Being.

#### THE FUTURE.

We have every reason for being heartened by the progress of the work and its present condition. New life is being put into the Temple, new members are affiliating, new and better conditions presenting, and in the organism as a whole true harmony obtains which must permit the Masters to pour the highest forces of love and light into the Body for the greatest world service.

All world events now taking place indicate the closing of a great world cycle. The old rubbish must be burned up, the debris cleared away, the way prepared that the Christ Principle may manifest. We are on the threshold of the New Dispensation, it is near, it is at hand. Knowing this should help us to render greater service to the race at this crisis and this we can do both in the silent thought and aspiration as well as in the spoken word and outer act. Let us feel, then, that we are true Warriors of Light in the sacred cause of preparing the way for the Immanent Christ force that is to save and regenerate the world.

WILLIAM H. DOWER,  
Official Head.

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#### REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

I am come to you this morning to unfold for you a glimpse of the Ideal inspiring the work of this department, and to offer as concisely as possible, a review of its work for your consideration.

Since the inception of the Temple our leaders have builded into forms of matter, Spiritual Truths of inestimable value. Steadily, and unwaveringly they have held open the central point of inflow, thus radiating into the Earth's aura lines of regenerating force from Inner Spheres. To us they have given the privilege of building those lines of force into outer form; those Spiritual Truths into living powers.

You all have seen a great switch-board in action, have seen how the telephone lines are connected one with the other? If so, you will grasp my meaning when I use the switch-board as a symbol.

Picture to your mind this Center as a Great Sun-Center functioning myriad lines of golden force in all directions, filling hearts that are hungry with nourishing Love, illuminating minds that are confused with its clarifying Light, touching Souls that are sinking in despair with hope and renewed energy:—but all this from within. On the outer plane those same hearts and minds and souls are reaching out pleadingly for the material correspondence of the Inner Force and Light they have received. And so, I see this department as a Great Switch-board, connecting interiorly with the Divine Forces of Love, Wisdom and Power and functioning exteriorly corresponding, *materialized* lines of Force. Over these lines travel the Great Redeeming Truths given into our custody by the Great White Lodge.



I would read to you some words of the Master Hilarion:

"I have sometimes wondered what you would do if a wild beast were to spring out at one of your nearest and dearest friends, and you knew the beast was coming. Every Temple member is in a similar position toward the world today, and the carelessness, thoughtlessness, unbelief I see staggers me somewhat, in the face of the verification of so many warnings given by myself and others.

"Many, many souls are waiting in the world today for just the touch, just the word, that would bring them to this center and the word is not spoken! The time goes by and nothing is done to follow the directions I have given to all concerned. If any words or acts of mine could awaken the Temple members, at a distance particularly, to a knowledge of the danger they were in by such careless misuse of the privileges given them, I should consider myself particularly favored, but in my own case as in that of many other Initiates the conditions are such that I cannot make them hear. They have blinded their eyes and closed their ears to everything that does not bring them material possession.

"I say to you there is no greater need for effort on your part. Wherever sorrow and tribulation have done their work in the world and softened the hearts of people, there is an opportunity for you to take a message from me. It matters not whether you have ever seen that person in your present life or not, the very fact that you have been drawn to consideration of that person's needs shows that there is a karmic connection between you, and you have a duty toward that person, whether you are thus aroused by a notice in a daily paper, or whether it comes to you from some other source, your duty is there. You will not have to seek far for the message you should give. It is written in your own heart. Whether that message may seem to fail of results immediately or not, matters little; the *connection is made* and help can thereby be given."

In offering you a resume of our work, this department knows just how a brand new baby feels when it is presented to its various grandmothers and grandfathers, aunts and uncles and cousins and friends, for approval! Usually it smiles most sweetly, or howls most vociferously; so we, well we may do a little of both!

Our first step was taken when we asked for a Christmas Message to send to the world. It was given us. Two thousand copies were printed and sent out, our Temple brothers and sisters nobly doing their part in the distribution. In January the results became apparent for many letters of inquiry were received and carefully answered. Some of these inquirers entered the Temple ranks and in so doing placed themselves in line for Chelaship.

We had ere this recognized the necessity of special instruction for, and contact with, new students. For the Temple must be a bridge to those who are not consciously traveling the Path, as well as a point of connection for those who are. We must clear a Path over which they may walk and then reach out and encourage them to walk in that Path, or to at least take a few steps. This can only be done under a definitely organized and systematized plan. So, we outlined that plan and began building it into form. Here there are many points of interest to be touched upon, but time will not permit, so I will outline but briefly the steps already taken.

Each new member receives a personal letter upon entering. Once each month this contact is renewed. A monthly course of instruction has been established. Questions concerning the lessons in the First Book are being sent and the answers, in all except four instances, are returned regularly. These answers are carefully considered, suggestions made where the interpretations are incorrect or inadequate, etc. We also found it expedient to prepare for the assistance of new students a set of answers to the questions, restating the subject-matter in simplified form.

We have complete filing systems and card indices established, as well as form letters, follow-up systems, etc. Otherwise we could not have handled the rapidly increasing demands of the department.

During this time the propaganda campaign has been waged unceasingly. When writing to members names of persons interested in radical lines of thought were asked for; many were received. They were written to, cards made out and filed in the propaganda index for follow-up work. We next wrote to all Artisan subscribers who were not also Temple members, with the result that one-sixth of this number responded by affiliating with the Temple. All old inquirers whose names had been retained were also written to with good results. Lists of names in magazines were used and still we needed names—names for farther effort. Then one day Mrs. La Due said: "Sarah, I saw a letter in the *Bulletina* thanking the publishers for the use of their list of names. Why not write and ask for it?" This we did and they replied, saying they would be glad to exchange their list of 2000 names for a similar one from us. It was a long tiresome job, but we prepared that list making nine carbon copies for further use. Other organizations then were approached with the same idea and some exchanges made.

We have now about 4000 names of people interested along esoteric lines just awaiting the necessary time and means in order to commence a propaganda campaign among them. There are also nearly 1000 names awaiting the vital follow-up effort, for it usually takes from two to three letters to bring a response.

The need in the department for financial assistance gave birth to the idea of preparing a series of correspondence courses, which would not only give to the world the great exoteric teachings of the Master Hilarion, but would so give them that the world in receiving would be moved to reciprocate the service and return to us the material substance that would carry on the work. The preparation of these courses of study called for a greater expenditure of time, energy and money than we had anticipated. But they are now almost completed. Four orders have been received offering an adequate return, as well as requests from those who are unable to make an offering. The latter make the burden still heavier, but can we refuse to give to those who ask of us Spiritual Food?

At this writing over 3000 letters have been sent out, as well as propaganda literature and Artisans. Since January first within ten as many new members have entered the Temple ranks as had entered in during the preceding three years. The books and the work are open at all times to the inspection of interested members.

At this point we wish to publicly acknowledge our indebtedness and express our appreciation to Mr. Wolff for his unfaltering active support of the department. His clear mental conceptions and logical mind have

given greater assistance than appears on the surface. And I shall not fail to include in this report the work in Occult Mathematics, of this most efficient assistant of ours; for if, metaphorically speaking, walking the floor in helpless sympathy with a wild-looking man, who rages against Secret Doctrines that won't correlate their subject-matter, and then suddenly rushes to his typewriter and writes in calm majesty for many minutes, only to spring forth again into desperate struggle with the Occult Muse, while you, listening painstakingly to the difficulties and perplexities of that break in logical connection that won't clear up, soothingly but silently apply the Mystic Light, if that picture were omitted the story of the Temple work of this department would be incomplete.

As a last word to you I would impress upon your consciousness with all the power that is at my command, the crying need of spreading our message before the world. In this dark day there is a yearning hunger for that Light which will bring brightness and hope into the gloom. Wide-spread suffering is making that hunger take more and more conscious form. This is the Great Hour for sowing the, O! so greatly needed seed in the prepared soil. Can we stand by and fail to put forth the effort that will bring to others, perhaps many others, the Light, that may not only place them far along in the scale of evolutionary development in future incarnations, but may even save from breaking in some cases the heavily-strained thread that unites the lower and higher selves. What cost to our personal selves can be too great if it is demanded that this work may be done? That which we would be building is a Great Temple in the spaces of Heaven in which not only we would realize that only true life that is so wide and full, but with us into that Realization would come our darkened sin-stained Humanity, regenerated. A great part in that work is the opportunity that offers to every one of us. Can we stand supinely by, afraid to face the effort and the pain that is for but a moment *relative* to the great spans of time that lie before us? I trust that every one can stand and say: "No! cost what it will I will strive to give my best in that Great Fight." To him who can so courageously stand forth will come the blessing of a fore-taste of that Great Peace which is the foundation of abiding Bliss.

SARAH A. MERRELL BRIGGS.

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Splendid and appropriate musical selections were rendered during the program of the Sunday meeting. At the opening the Convocation Hymn was sung by the assembly. The following selections were rendered:

Piano solo by Edgar Cheatham; vocal solo, "Open Thou Mine Eyes" by Miss Agnes Liberty; "Nazareth" by J. O. Varian, violin solo, "Madrigal" by George Bailey; duet, "While I Seek Thee" by Agnes Liberty and Dr. Little; "My Task" by Dr. Little, and "Fear Ye Not O Israel," by Otto Westfelt.

Dr. Little and Miss Agnes Liberty also sang a duet a "Song of Remembrance" in regard to which before singing Dr. Little spoke as follows:



"While we are assembled here, enjoying the fellowship of this hour, let us remember those of our brothers and sisters who cannot be with us to feed on this hour. Some of them are utterly isolated from Temple association. Their lives are lived without the refreshing and strength which comes from such foregatherings as these. Let us remember, too, those who have passed out of this plane and onto other, inner planes. They have become no inconsiderable company. Many of our staunchest fellows are working with us there. They are a great element of strength to us. Let us send them our love and greeting. And then there are those who have been with us here in fellowship and service, but who for reasons sufficient to themselves have voluntarily withdrawn themselves from us. Many of them have gone forth in bitterness and heartache. They are hungry and alone or they have grown deaf to the voices that call. They are still ours and of us. Let us send them our love and our yearning.

This first meeting of the Convention then closed by the reciting of the Mantrams, and the singing of the Consecration Hymn.

The meeting then adjourned out of doors where a group picture of the members was taken by Miss Wilson.

This concluded the reading of reports of officers. While the reading of reports was going on a distinct earthquake shock was felt by nearly all in attendance. The shock lasted for about twenty seconds and consisted of a series of gentle but very perceptible undulations, the whole building swaying rhythmically with the force.

Under the head of Remarks one of the members present related the following inner experience had at the time of the earthquake shock:

"I want to tell you of the earthquake you have just felt. It was a result of the victory of the positive, spiritual forces over the negative destructive forces at this Center. As I sat here looking at you during the singing, you disappeared from my sight and a different scene came before me. It then seemed that the three Masters stood above us in a triangle. Master Hilarion at its apex, and he waved a wand over us as if in benediction and in promise of better things. And then He said: 'Star of the East, your work is well done; as you drew the Wise Men to the Manger, so will you draw the Atoms into closer contact and into Form.'"

(Report of Convention will be continued in October Number.)

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